

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

IN RE: **National Park Service-Sheep Creek  
Water System No. 1010500**

TO: Mr. Paul Schwarz, Sanitarian  
National Park Service-Lodgepole  
47050 Generals Highway  
Three Rivers, CA 93271

CC: Mr. Jason Gambatese, USEPA Region 9

**CITATION FOR NONCOMPLIANCE OF THE  
DOMESTIC WATER SUPPLY PERMIT**

**July and August 2013**

*Issued on September 16, 2013*

Section 116650 of the California Health and Safety Code (CHSC) authorizes the issuance of a Citation for failure to comply with a requirement of the California Safe Drinking Water Act, or any regulation, standard, permit, or order issued thereunder.

**VIOLATIONS**

The Drinking Water Field Operations Branch of the California Department of Public Health (hereinafter Department) hereby issues a Citation to the National Park Service-Sheep Creek Water System (hereinafter System) for failure to comply with Section

1 116555(a)(3) of the CHSC and Section 64653(c)(1) of Title 22, California Code of  
2 Regulations (CCR). Specifically, the System (mailing address: 47050 Generals Highway,  
3 Three Rivers, CA, 93271) failed to comply with Permit Provisions No. 8(a) of the  
4 Domestic Water Supply Permit issued on January 18, 2012.

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7 The above violations are classified as non-continuing.

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9 The System normally uses groundwater to supply water to the distribution system.  
10 However, the two (2) groundwater sources were not able to keep up with system demands.  
11 Therefore, the system requested to use their surface water source and provide bag filtration  
12 treatment until the groundwater sources were capable of meeting system demands. The  
13 System operates a bag filtration treatment plant which is classified as an alternative  
14 treatment technology. Section 64653 (h) of the CCR specifies that the Department's  
15 approval of alternative filtration technologies, including establishment of performance  
16 standards and monitoring requirements, shall be done in accordance with the permit  
17 process specified in Section 116525 through 116550 of the Health and Safety Code. Permit  
18 Provision 8(a) of the Domestic Water Supply Permit No. 03-12-12P-003 issued to the  
19 System on January 18, 2012, specifies that the turbidity level of the combined filter  
20 effluent water shall be less than or equal to 0.1 NTU in 95 percent of the measurements  
21 taken each month. The turbidity level of the filtered water shall not exceed 1.0 NTU for  
22 more than eight consecutive hours while the plant is in operation. For the month of July  
23 and August 2013, the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile was 0.24 NTU and 0.27 NTU, respectively. The  
24 System has since returned to using groundwater as a source of supply.  
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1 **NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**

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3 Section 64666(a) requires a water supplier to notify the persons served by the water system  
4 whenever there is a failure to comply with the permit provision specified in Section  
5 64653(h).  
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7  
8 Public notification for violation of Section 64653(h) shall be in accordance with Section  
9 64463.4(a)(1), including the mandatory language in Section 64465(a).  
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11 A copy of the public notice is in Attachment A and the proof of notification is included in  
12 Attachment B  
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15 **DIRECTIVES**

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17 The National Park Service has completed the necessary public notification by providing  
18 posted notices throughout the System's service area for period of time that the surface  
19 water source and surface water treatment plant were in use. In addition, the National Park  
20 Service has completed the necessary investigation, and no other directives are necessary at  
21 this time.  
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1 ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY

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3 Section 116650(e)(2) of the CHSC allows for the assessment of an administrative penalty  
4 for failure to comply with any citation issued for failure of the primary drinking water  
5 standard for turbidity. Failure to comply with any directive of this citation will result in  
6 the Department imposing an administrative penalty not to exceed \$250 (two hundred and  
7 fifty dollars) per day as of the date of violation.  
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11  
12 September 16, 2013

13 Date

14 Tricia A. Wathen

15 Tricia A. Wathen, P.E.  
16 Senior Sanitary Engineer  
17 Visalia District  
18 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BRANCH  
19 DRINKING WATER FIELD OPERATIONS

20  
21 CC: Mr. Jason Gambatese, USEPA Region 9  
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## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable.

Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

### DRINKING WATER WARNING

Cedar Grove Water System has high turbidity levels

**BOIL YOUR WATER BEFORE USING**

Due to drought conditions, the Parks has had to start using a surface water source in addition to ground water wells to meet water usage demand. We routinely monitor your water for turbidity (cloudiness). This tells us whether we are effectively filtering the water supply. Water monitoring starting July 12, 2013 showed turbidity levels of 0.150-0.162 turbidity units. This is above the standard of 0.144 turbidity units. Because of these elevated levels of turbidity, there is an increased chance that the water may contain disease-causing organisms.

#### What should I do?

- **DO NOT DRINK THE WATER WITHOUT BOILING IT FIRST.** Bring all water to a boil, let it boil for one minute, and let it cool before using, or use bottled water. Boiled or bottled water should be used for drinking, making ice, washing dishes, brushing teeth, and food preparation **until further notice**. Boiling kills bacteria and other organisms in the water.
- *Turbidity has no health effects. However, high levels of turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.* The symptoms above are not caused only by organisms in drinking water. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice.
- People with severely compromised immune systems, infants, and some elderly may be at increased risk. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from the U.S. EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1(800) 426-4791.

#### What is being done?

- We are sampling both raw surface water and treated water for the presence of coliform bacteria.
- We are monitoring chlorine levels and will adjust them as needed to compensate for filtration problems.
- We are inspecting and changing the filters.

We will inform you when turbidity returns to appropriate levels and when you no longer need to boil your water.

For more information, please contact Al Damazio at 559-565-4249, Paul Schwarz 559-565-3144 or Sequoia and Kings Canyon NP 47050 Generals Highway Three Rivers, CA 93271.

#### Secondary Notification Requirements

Upon receipt of notification from a person operating a public water system, the following notification must be given within 10 days [Health and Safety Code Section 116450(g)]:

- **RESIDENTIAL RENTAL PROPERTY OWNERS OR MANAGERS** (including nursing homes and care facilities): Must notify tenants.
- **BUSINESS PROPERTY OWNERS, MANAGERS, OR OPERATORS:** Must notify employees of businesses located on the property.

This notice is being sent to you by Sequoia and Kings Canyon NP.  
State Water System ID#: CA1010500. Date distributed: 7/12/2013.

ATTACHMENT \_\_\_\_\_

### PROOF OF NOTIFICATION

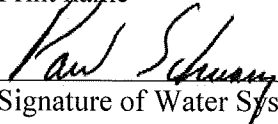
(Include copy of notice distributed)

As required by Section 116450 of the California Health and Safety Code, I notified all users of water supplied by the **SNP-Sheep Creek Water System** of the failure to meet the California Surface Water Treatment Rule – Turbidity for the month of July and August as directed by the Department.

Notification was made on 07/12/2013 by \_\_\_\_\_  
(date)

hand delivered or mailed/posted written notice.  
(circle all completed)

Paul Schwarz  
Print name

  
Signature of Water System Representative

07/17/2013  
Date

Turbidity MCL Failure  
System Number: 1010500  
Compliance Order No. \_\_\_\_\_